

Patent Application

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patentee: Altman, Peter A. Art Unit: 3311  
Pat. No.: 5,551,427 Examiner: Stephen D. Huang (orig. appl.)  
Issued: September 3, 1996 David M. Ruddy (appl. SN 09/146,120)  
Atty Docket No.: 23,403-05  
For: Implantable Device for the Effective Elimination of  
Cardiac Arrhythmogenic Sites

REISSUE APPLICATION - DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below-named inventor and applicant for reissue of the above identified U.S. patent, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated immediately below next to my name:

Full name of inventor: Peter A. Altman  
Residence (City/State): Albany, California  
Mailing Address: 717 Evelyn Avenue  
Albany, CA 94706  
Citizenship: United States

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor of the subject matter described and claimed in U.S. Patent No. 5,551,427, granted September 3, 1996 on U.S. Application Serial No. 387,257 filed February 13, 1995, and for which a reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled Implantable Device for the Effective Elimination of Cardiac Arrhythmogenic Sites, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims (original claims 1-26 and new claims 27-31) as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

With regard to surrender of the patent pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.178, I hereby confirm that the original Certificate of U.S. Letters Patent No. 5,551,427 has been surrendered in reissue application serial number 09/146,120 for reissue of said U.S. Patent No. 5,551,427.

I believe the original patent to be partly inoperative or invalid by reason of my claiming less than I had a right to claim in the original patent.

In particular, the claims of the original patent are directed to a biocompatible, electrically inactive, implantable device including a means for penetrating cardiac tissue to effect an implantation of the implantable device at a designated site in a heart, to modify electrical action in the cardiac tissue at and proximate the site (claim 21). The claims in the original patent also are directed to a method of locally altering electrical activity in cardiac tissue at a selected site in the region of the heart, including: measuring electrical activity in cardiac tissue, to identify a potential implantation site; and introducing an electrically inactive and biocompatible implantable device into the region of the heart, and at least partially imbedding the implantable device into cardiac tissue at the site to effect an implantation (claim 12).

I believe that the original patent, in particular at column 6 lines 9-16, column 6 lines 61-67 and at column 14 lines 25-39 when considered in conjunction with the drawings and with the remainder of the specification, discloses a further aspect of the invention relating to the use of a structure having a tissue penetrating element for delivering a pharmacological agent, more particularly an angiogenic agent, to cardiac tissue at and adjacent the penetrating element. The invention further relates to a process for delivering a pharmacological agent, more particularly an angiogenic agent to the heart, by penetrating a delivery device into heart tissue and delivering the agent to the tissue through the delivery device.

Based on my further consideration of the claims of the original patent, and consultation with my patent attorneys and others concerning the patented claims, I now believe that the original patent claims do not sufficiently claim the aforementioned further aspect of the invention. The aforementioned reissue application serial number 09/146,120, scheduled to issue December 11, 2001 as Reissue Patent number Re. 37,463, addresses this error. New

claims 27-31 of the present reissue application, which is being filed as a divisional of said reissue application serial number 09/146,120, is intended to further address this error.

Every error corrected in the present reissue application up to the time of filing this declaration arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

Claims 1-26 of the original patent are cancelled in the present reissue application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

And I hereby appoint, jointly and severally, Frederick W. Niebuhr, Registration No. 27,717; Paul H. McDowall, Registration No. 34,873; and Thomas J. Oppold, Registration No. 42,054 and LARKIN, HOFFMAN, DALY & LINDGREN, LTD., 1500 Wells Fargo Plaza, 7900 Xerxes Avenue South, Bloomington, Minnesota 55431-3333, my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith, and the general power of attorney to file and prosecute any foreign or International (PCT) application claiming the benefit of priority of this application, or any continued prosecution application, continuation, continuation-in-part, divisional, reexamination, or reissue thereof.

Please direct all communications concerning this application to:

Frederick W. Niebuhr  
Registration No. 27,717  
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Wherefore, I hereby petition for a reissue of U.S. Patent No. 5,551,427 under 35 U.S. Code Section 251 in accordance with the aforementioned specification and claims, and I hereby

subscribe my name to said specification and claims and to this declaration, power of attorney, and petition.

Date: 12/10/01

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Peter A. Altman